

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: AviDov@aol.com
Subject: am-65 thermal relay
Message-ID: <950804232519_130895103@aol.com>

this a repeat of original reply which bounced and is now also addressed to BA, hoping you'll see it this time.
Two pcs are available, unused orig. box @\$20 incl. pkg & ship chgs.
One is the raytheon version with a brown octal base and the other is by Tungso1 which has a black base and appears to be of later vintage. Both carry the same Fed. Tel. part no. shown in the TM.
The choice is yours. aben

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
Subject: Re: Another collector speaks
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9508050112.A11255-0100000@indy2>

Hi!

On Fri, 4 Aug 1995 TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu wrote:
> [...] Randy [Cole] on keys. I find him to be not
> only quite knowledgeable, but an honest, ethical collector/trader [...]

Amen! Randy has been very helpful to me, and his prices are sensible! He knows what he's talking about and deals fairly; I've learned something every time we've corresponded.

Vibroplex's own Mitch is helpful, too, though the very soul of discretion when it comes to actual prices for the older bugs (and his reasoning for that is sound)--but ask around, and time after time, you'll hear stories of his company either *having* the parts for an oldie, or knowing where to find said parts for 'em. Now *that's* service--try asking any other company about a 40-plus-year-old product!

> It's a damned shame. I used to enjoy key collecting. Now, my collection is
> on hold. The game's being ruined by the stupid and the greedy.

Agreed--I never have owned up to being a key collector...it's just that interesting keys have been following me home from time to time. But I *use* 'em, they don't live in a glass case. "Collectors" have museums; I just have a lot of old gear in my ham shack. :)

73,
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <j38@clark.net>
Subject: Re: Another collector speaks
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950805084529.27012A-100000@clark.net>

On Sat, 5 Aug 1995, Roberta J. Barmore wrote:

> Agreed--I never have owned up to being a key collector...it's just
> that interesting keys have been following me home from time to time. But
> I *use* 'em, they don't live in a glass case. "Collectors" have museums;
> I just have a lot of old gear in my ham shack. :)

Hi Bobbi,

I've never considered myself to be a collector either. I'm an accumulator. There is no rhyme or reason to what I have, except maybe for several things E.F.Johnson, except that I like them, so there's a little bit of evrything here. However, unlike you, they have overflowed the ham shack. For example, there are three receivers in the living room, four in the dining room, and the BC-375 project, awaiting my finding a PE-73 and other goodies to get it on the air, is the "Guest" in my guest bedroom.

To a degree I'm like what one of those people up prices because of paying more because I want something badly enough to pay more than what a collector would ordinarily pay. Consequently I have a lot of items that I know won't bring enough to recover my original investment, but I knew that when I bought them. I understand the frustration the real collectors are having at seeing someone like me doing that, but if I want something, I buy it. When I haven't, I've regretted it.

73,
Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Re: Another collector speaks
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950805055833.10473A-100000@crl3.crl.com>

Gee Not more about Keys.. hi

I also do not call myself a collector, but I have about 35 keys. A

real collector would know how many he has... Everyone of them is different, and I mean different not just what year they were mfg.

I have paid as little as \$2 and as much as \$250 with the average being about \$75 each. I started collecting around 1970. Some are rare and minit condition. All are working condx.

I have noticed that "key collectors" as they call themselves now days want to pay \$15 for everything and sell it for hundreds. So I do not sell or trade. I see a lot of junk at the hamfests but priced like new.

I no longer tell a collector what I have since the trend has been to get mad if you will not sell them one that you have. If I collect as a business guess I would sell, but I wanted to see how the worked, etc so the fact I have one that keeps someone from having a complete collection of "whatever" doesn't make any difference to me.. My only fear is that when I have gone on to the next world some @#\$% will cheat my wife out of what they are worth.

However, today their worth is to make my ham shack look nice and they do look good setting around on the bookcase and operating bench. Not sure how you put a dollar value on that.. Since she would not need them to set around the ham shack, I guess she might not get cheated since they would be of a different value to her. I am amazed by those collectors that keep all of there keys packed away in boxes,etc... I knew a coin collector one time that want to have owned at one time every rare coin. So he only owned a few at a time and keep buying up. No matter what coin you talked about he use to say I use to own one of those.... Strange world..

I would like to see a key pricing list to know what some now go for.... Like the equipment list on BA, would give you an idea.

So I guess I collect for appearance. hi I would have a better money return if I had invested in swamp land. But you know what they say about boys and there toys.

de stan ak0b

Just my 2 cents to this equation

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>
Subject: Re: Another collector speaks
Message-ID: <199508051541.KAA03009@uro.theporch.com>

At 08:19 AM 8/5/95 -0500, Steven Wilson wrote:
>Gee Not more about Keys.. hi
>

>doesn't make any difference to me.. My only fear is that when I have gone
>on to the next world some @/\$% will cheat my wife out of what they are worth.
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>So I guess I collect for appearance. hi I would have a better money
>return if I had invested in swamp land. But you know what they say
>about boys and there toys.

Having attended various ham estate sales over the years, seems like the
fraternity comes together in a show of support for the widow. On one sale,
the president of our radio club spent a lot of time evaluating each and
every item in a CONSIDERABLE estate. Unfortunately he evaluated everything
on the high side. A professional auctioneer came in and when no one bid the
high prices, the widow stopped the sale. The outcome was she got mad at the
"cheap hams" and the "cheap hams" got mad at the president! Far as I know,
all of those keys are still sitting in her bedroom <grin>.

Out of this came two thoughts. First, is a serious attempt to not
accumulate a lot of specialized items with which to burden my widow with.
Is it really fair to tie up joint funds on specialized items which will
undoubtedly never have the original purchase price recovered? Well, if you
have "extra" money for this purpose, I guess it's OK. However, I think we
both would rather spend the funds on something we could enjoy together.

Second, I told my wife to not hang on to anything, thinking it's worth more
than what's offered. I told her if someone offered \$0.35 for the KWM-2A,
and that's the best offer, then SELL!

I agree it's "fun" to collect things but don't forget it's just temporary
and you can't take it with you. Even credit cards will burn down there!

73 de Jack

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <j38@clark.net>
Subject: Re: Another collector speaks
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950805135437.15868A-100000@clark.net>

On Sat, 5 Aug 1995, Jack Taylor wrote:

> At 08:19 AM 8/5/95 -0500, Steven Wilson wrote:
> >Gee Not more about Keys.. hi
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> >doesn't make any difference to me.. My only fear is that when I have gone
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> the president of our radio club spent a lot of time evaluating each and
> every item in a CONSIDERABLE estate. Unfortunately he evaluated everything
> on the high side. A professional auctioneer came in and when no one bid the
> high prices, the widow stopped the sale. The outcome was she got mad at the
> "cheap hams" and the "cheap hams" got mad at the president!

We are fortunate here in the National Capital area that the Foundation for Amateur Radio has their Widow's Assistance Program (recently renamed to the PC "Survivor's Assistance Program") that steps in and helps get fair prices for SK gear. They have a lot of experience, so they manage to avoid the unfortunate situation that you described.

Unfortunately, one of the local sleaze balls thought he had beaten the Foundation people to the widow of an SK near where I live a while back and offered to (quoting what she told me he said) "take ths stuff off (her) hands" and offered her \$300. Of course all the SK left behind was a Ten Tec Omni, an Atlas 210X, an HQ-170, a Kenwood handy, etc. I faxed a list to Neil Lawton, WK9Q, (Radio Recyclers) and he was kind enough to return the list with the estimate the current market value for her to use as a guide and the total amounted to better than ten-times what the sleazoid offered her. Nice guy...

On a more up-beat note, when the Stu Meyer, W2GHK, estate was being liquidated, I put Robert Fowle in touch with Lottie, Stu's widow, and he did very well by him. In fact, she was so happy with dealing with Robert, she hugged me as I left to take the gear off to be shipped. (Thanks Robert!)

> Second, I told my wife to not hang on to anything, thinking it's worth more
> than what's offered. I told her if someone offered \$0.35 for the KWM-2A,
> and that's the best offer, then SELL!

Money is not a problem with me, so my intent is that the gear find homes where it'll be appreciated. I would much rather give something to somebody that'll use and enjoy it than sell it to somebody that's just going turn it over for a profit, or worse yet, will tear it up. In fact, I won't sell a boatanchor to someone that I know will cannibalize or otherwise alter it.

The jetsam rigs I have the misfortune to own are something else entirely. I could care less what happens to them. Maybe I should put in my will

that they be destroyed. ;-)

73,
Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Do semiconductors wear ou...
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950805085653.17915A-100000@mm1001.theporch.com>

ICOM is not the only company guilty of not having parts. It is part of corporate policy of planned obsolescence. Mkaes for greator sales. These rice boxes in sufficient quantity are the true boatanchors sinc they will be impossible to make work without those cititcal chips.

Maybee we should call them dinngy anchors.
Or maybee canoe anchors

Kevin J Pease
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.
mm1001.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <j38@clark.net>
Subject: Re: Do semiconductors wear ou...
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950805104403.13040A-100000@clark.net>

On Sat, 5 Aug 1995, Kevin J Pease wrote:

>
> ICOM is not the only company guilty of not having parts. It is part of
> corporate policy of planned obsolescence. Mkaes for greator sales. These
> rice boxes in sufficient quantity are the true boatanchors sinc they will
> be impossible to make work without those cititcal chips.
>
> Maybee we should call them dinngy anchors.
> Or maybee canoe anchors

How about "jetsam"? :-)

73,
Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: KB9VU@aol.com
Subject: RE: Drake List
Message-ID: <950805121013_131128500@aol.com>

Kevin Anderson posted a query looking for a copy of the "Drake List". As his address is not good as shown, I don't know if he got it or not.

Does anyone on the list have a copy of the "drake List"? If so, can I get a copy?
Thanks!

Failing that, I'm in need of finding a set of Drake "C" line crystal filters. 1500KHz and 500KHz range needed.

Also need an AC-4 Power Supply.

Also need range crystals in the 10, 12, 17 and 30 Mhz ranges.

Anyone have any spare Drake parts???

Thanks! Mike, KB9VU

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: HAMRLUND@aol.com
Subject: f.s.: books
Message-ID: <950805105451_48527701@aol.com>

I have the following:

5 vol. set- called basic electronics, by- van valkenburg, nooger & neville, inc./ a rider publication. First edition dated 1955 price shipped.....\$20.00

4 vol. set- called basic electricity, by (same as above), rider publication. First edition dated 1954 price shipped.....\$20.00

if interested contact:

robert fowle

1215 winifred
jackson, mich. 49202-1946
517-789-6721

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: HAMRLUND@aol.com
Subject: f.s.: Hammarlund & cardwell air variables
Message-ID: <950804222820_48293836@aol.com>

have the following for sale, capacity listed where known. these are new, but most have no boxes, all are poly-bagged. will sell by the piece or trade all for Hammarlund equipment, manuals, accessories, literature, ect.

qty.- part# - capacity (if known)

Hammarlund:

1/ 34604-5
1/ 34604-6
1/ 351-1059
1/ 4111-49
1/ 48A084
1/ 5003-C C1C
1/ 9404-18-00040
2/ 9411-72-50379
2/ 9411-72-60348
1/ 11727-77
1/ A8H501
1/ APC 25 3.0-25.
4/ ASP 100 G
1/ APC 100 5.5-100
5/ APC 140 6.7-140
1/ B-253-124-2
1/ B-7485-440-2
1/ C 67380
3/ CT 1E040 5.0-40
1/ CT 1E075 6.0-75.
1/ CT 1F040 5.0-40.
1/ CT 3C040
1/ CT 14E042-M 5.0-42
1/ CT 14E042-J 3.0-10.
1/ CT 14F010-J 3.0-10.
1/ CT 14F042-J 5.0-42
1/ CT 1316047-J 5.5-47.
2/ ES 676693-5
5/ HF-35 3.2-36
1/ HFA-140-A 6.0-145.
2/ KS-13772
3/ KS-13998L1

1/ KS 18998L14
1/ MACBF-3 1.3-3.1 N.I.B.
1/ MAC-5 N.I.B.
1/ HF-15-X N.I.B.
1/ HF-50 N.I.B.
1/ MAC-20 2.0-21.5
2/ MABF-8 2.0-7.9
1/ MAPC-100 4.5-100.
1/ MCD-35 MX 6.0-31.
1/ MJ-50-5
1/ P-31800014
1/ P-7761345-15
1/ 34452-40
4/ 841690
1/ 7765659-1

70 Total pieces

CARDWELL

2/ A-105623 25MuFD
3/ ZU-100-AS 3.0-100.

5 Total pieces

B&W

1/ CX-62-C

BUD

1/ 1615 AIR GAP-300 75MMFD

Total pieces altogether..... 77

Thats the end of this list..

Now the hard part, price. I know all the hubbub about "offers". But frankly, I don't know what this stuff is worth. I don't want to short change ME or YOU! So give me some slack, and Help me and Help yourself.....I know what I've seen some of this stuff sell for , new and at swaps, but, that doesn't help now.....

so lets hear from you, by the piece or by the lot.....cash or trade
(Hammarlund only)

contact

robert fowle

1215 winifred
jackson, mich. 49202-1946
517-789-6721

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: carreiro@netcom.com (Paul Carreiro)
Subject: Help in FT-243 Grinding
Message-ID: <199508050450.VAA25845@netcom9.netcom.com>

Greetings fellow boatanchorites!

I need help from all the BA gurus out there practiced in the mysterious art of grinding FT-243 type surplus crystals to operate in the ham bands.

I have had some success bringing crystals down in the 6.8 to 6.9 MHz range up into the 40 meter band using dry "ultra fine" grade sandpaper. Some have resulted in fine CW tones, others seem to be chirpy and have rather lousy short term stability as the transmitter is keyed (<1/2 second of instability). I realize this instability is a characteristic sound of the era, but some of these crystals seem to be overly unstable and are just about unusable for CW work.

So, I'd like to call on the collective experience of all you OTs out there, to help pass on this magical, little understood, and quite possibly lost art of grinding surplus FT-243 type crystals into the ham bands. What were all the tricks of the trade back then? Are there any new fangled products on the market that would make this task easier or more accurate?

I also have some general questions on the subject:

Is there a limit in how far you can change the frequency of a crystal?
Seems my attempts at bringing crystals up from 6.7 MHz and below up into the 7.0 MHz range have all resulted in very chirpy output signals.

I've heard that you can alter the frequency slightly up or down by changing the spring tension inside the crystal. If so, does more tension lower or increase the frequency?

What's the best trick to keep from overshooting your desired frequency?

Also, is there a frequency or section in the 40 meter band that is the hang out for Vintage/Classic gear?

Incase you're curious, I'm using these crystals in Johnson Viking Valiant, WRL Globe Chief 90A and Allied Knight T60 transmitters.

Thanks in advance for any and all help!

73 from a young pup trying to get the old dogs to teach me some new tricks.

Paul, N6HCS
carreiro@netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: "Hal R. Waite" <halwaite@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Help in FT-243 Grinding
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950804220733.20217A-100000@netcom12>

Try tooth paste or better yet tooth powder in a heavy water slurry on a glass plate. Using light pressure from the second finger (the one that is used for signaling) and a circular motion, grind each of the straight outer edges lightly. Then clean off and dry. If you overshoot, a small amount of pencil lead rubbed on the center of the crystal face will either lower the frequency or cause it to fail to oscillate.

This takes a light touch and a bit of practice. Avoid grinding the center of the crystal face.

Hal K4GFI/7 halwaite@netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
Subject: Re: Help in FT-243 Grinding
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9508050226.D11255-0100000@indy2>

Hi!

[Fair warning--most of what I'm going to say is hearsay, culled from old magazines rather than actual experience. At least one fellow who posts to the list has ground his own xtals from *scratch,* and I'm hoping he'll have additional comment--oh, Gordon???

On Fri, 4 Aug 1995, Paul Carreiro wrote:
> I have had some success bringing crystals down in the 6.8 to 6.9 MHz range
> up into the 40 meter band using dry "ultra fine" grade sandpaper. Some have
> resulted in fine CW tones, others seem to be chirpy. [...etc. ...]

Based on what I've read, any grade of sandpaper is too rough--scouring power for big jumps, toothpaste for small ones & final grinding on the larger changes. You can also get grinding paste in various grades at hardware stores, though most of what I see is in a waxy base for

buffing-wheel work.

You've got to keep both of the large surfaces parallel and flat! Work on a slab of plate glass (try junk shops, glass stores, and/or any telescope hobbyists you know--don't take a used lens grinding glass, though, it's not flat any more), and for small rocks, consider grinding a bit of thick brass flat and using it to push on the crystal with. If it goes inactive, grind gently at the corners.

Cleanliness is **vital** before putting it back in the holder, wash your hands, rinse the crystal; set it down on a **clean** and soft surface, wash your hands again, put on gloves and clean it with something that'll zap any oil, like 1,1,1 trichlorethane ("Carbo-clor") or possibly **denatured** alcohol. (With older rocks, "cleaning the crystal" was a regular thing). Wash your hands before you start, too, and don't touch your face or hair while thinking what to do. (A dab of denatured or trichlor will de-oil your hands, though it doesn't do the skin any good [yessiree, that's why I'm a hand model now, ha!] and may be hazardous--EPA and kin aren't very keen about trichlor).

- > I've heard that you can alter the frequency slightly up or down by
- > changing the spring tension inside the crystal. If so, does more tension
- > lower or increase the frequency?

More tension, higher freq--within limits! Saw mention of this and other tricks, like adding a shunt trimmer condenser, in an old CQ just the other day. (Naturally I can't find it now). The article mostly concerned making 'em tweakable--the best trick was an FT-243 version of the old vari-gap "rubber crystals," for which purpose it was suggested the best type of tension spring was made of a rectangular plate with a half-circle bend in the center and the long sides bent flat with a 1/8" radius half-circle cut-out in the center of the long sides (end view like an omega, looking at the short sides; top view, a sort of fat H, wider than it is tall). Drill and tap the cover plate in the center, run a screw into the tapped hole, and you have a tweakable xtal. Tweak too far and it may break; that's at your risk and no liability on the part of the writer is implied or assumed. Offer void where prohibited. :)

- > What's the best trick to keep from overshooting your desired frequency?

Go slow, check often. Most GDOs will work for xtal checking--tune it in on your receiver to check freq. If you run up the meter sensitivity, a good crystal will give a **lot** of deflection. A five-prong or octal tube socket and some plugs that'll fit the coil jacks on the GDO make a nice test fixture. (A five-prong socket can be wired to fit both "doorknob" and FT-243 rocks, a trick I saw for the first time last week and am now finding in a lot of places--tie pins 3 & 4 together, and use pin two for the other connection).

If you like fiddlin' measurements, buy a cheap micrometer; measure the thickness, check freq; grind a bit and check & measure again. By the third iteration, you'll be able to plot a fair curve correlating thickness and freq, which will hold pretty close for other crystals of the same type and range. Still need to fire it up and *see* in the last stages, especially if you're trying to hit a specific freq. (There are ways to fake up a micrometer, with a well-calibrated dial and fine-threaded hardware, a Depression-era trick; using a real mike is probably just as cheap nowadays).

Hope that's of some use.

73,
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: rocco lardiere <lardiere@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: HT-32: Opinion, advice, experiences?
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9508050905.A8493-01000000@netcom10>

Roy,

I've been waiting a long time to put in a few good words about the HT-32 series of transmitters. As you probably know, they were the high end of the Hallicrafters line during the late 50's and early 60's. I presently own two, an HT-32A and an HT-32B. I have not had time to go through the latter yet, but did align and otherwise recondition the former. General comments - they are known for having flakey power transformers, so it's a good idea to replace the big filter capacitors before bringing up the set with a variac. You can buy a replacement transformer, but they are expensive. Mechanically, the 32's are solid and reliable, at least the one's I have used. There are plenty of tubes - do not replace them unless really needed - new tubes will disturb the alignment. However, do not be shy of running through the complete alignment in the manual (try Hi -Manuals for a copy). Mine was easy to clean up and align.

Signal reports are always good with the -32A. I use a Shure 444 mike with mine. The VFO is quite acceptable in all respects. Note that DSB AM is available, and the signal quality for that mode is better than most from this period. Of course, you can't expect it to punch through like a decent plate modulated rig, but with a linear behind it you can have some real fun. I have heard many on the air on AM. Note also that the HT-37, the phasing version of the -32, is also a real nice, all-around transmitter.

One more hint - if you are wondering what receiver to pair with it, the

SX 115 is my number one pick (if I could only find one to buy, that is). The SX 101 is ok, but the performance isn't as good. One popular choice is the 75A4 - somehow it looks great next to the Hallicrafters. Perhaps it's the wrinkle paint. To be honest, I prefer the HT-32 to my KWS-1, especially in the "easy tuneup" department. I am sure you will learn to appreciate its qualities. By the way, at 85 lb, you should definitely "lift with your legs" with '32's.

73,

Rocco N6KN

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: W3BJZ@aol.com
Subject: Military Key - Help
Message-ID: <950805135410_48616273@aol.com>

I picked up a green cased J-37 key. The top cover is olive drab with the J-37 key inside. Can anyone help me with this. Is it rare and what is the going price for such a key.
Thanks., Dave, W3BJZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: AviDov@aol.com
Subject: modules
Message-ID: <950804232459_130894928@aol.com>

first reply to your post bounced so include the cc: address now in the hope you will receive it this time.
If you'll list the needed units by either their collins part numbers or their receiver ref nos., or any other designation you may have, I'll check them out and advise in a few days.

aben

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: gcarter@Libris.Public.Lib.GA.US (Greg Carter)
Subject: Need Main Tuning Knob SX-101
Message-ID: <9508050913.AA24763@Mail.Public.Lib.GA.US>

Dear Anchors and Anchorettes:

I'm still looking for one of these knobs. Anyone out there have an old junker SX-101 they are parting out????

Tnx much for the help!

Greg KX4R
gcarter@mail.public.lib.ga.us

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: Re: Need Main Tuning Knob SX-101
Message-ID: <950805084207_131050782@aol.com>

Greg,

Have you tried Electric Radio's Part's Set list which contains quite a few radios being parted out?

Joseph Pinner +
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD
EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: "penson" <penon@geom.umn.edu>
Subject: Re: new Heath book
Message-ID: <199508050259.AA11402@cameron.geom.umn.edu>

Thanks for the info, Nick.

At the risk of posting an ad here on the listserver, I just wanted to let you know that my book on Heath amateur radio products is about two months away. The title is "Heathkit: A Guide to the Amateur Radio Products."

The book will be about 250 pages and will cover 163 principal products. Each product description includes a photograph (taken by myself) 'cept for a few of the later day products I just don't have (and don't want). The book also includes a section listing references to Heath products in QST and CQ, a product index cross referenced by model and type of product listing first and last year of manufacture, and the last price for which the product sold. Also included is a chart showing the chronology of product development, and a 40 page introduction of the history of Heath's product development.

The book will be published by Electric Radio. I do not know what the price will be but Barry has been talking about \$24.95, softcover. I will have the finished book in Barry's hands no later than September 1, and he will have it printed and for sale no later than six weeks after that.

Look for a mention in the the next ER.

Chuck

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: FRANCIS4@AppleLink.Apple.COM (Francis, Dexter)
Subject: Obsolete in no time...
Message-ID: <807639586.8820464@AppleLink.Apple.COM>

Bill Fuqua said: "There is a problem now today which will make impossible to restore future boat anchors...That is that many products have one time programmable processors in them or have e-prom or eeprom. These devices in the future may be unavaliable."

Already bit me big time; I got an AOR CW Decoder at a swap fest and blew it's sandy little brains out by mistake. (The Drake did it!) Now I can't find anybody who can fix it and AOR USA doesn't know about it because it's from the inscrutable East...

-df

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: Power supply crapped out while bringing it up on Variac - post-mortem!
Message-ID: <199508050556.AAA27939@zoom.bga.com>

As Michael Crestohl said

>
> Hello All Boatanchor Enthusiasts:
>
> A strange thing just occurred and I wonder if anyone can help me analyse
> the situation.
>
> I have always made it a habit to use a Variac to slowly apply voltage
> to older equipment. I usually just cranked the Variac from 0 to 120
> in about a minute. Recently I read here that some folks took a couple
> of hours to bring the filter caps up to full strap. I figured there
> is some wisdom in allowing them more time to re-from, so this morning
> I decided to take a couple of hours to bring up a military power supply
> up to operating voltage.
>

(Sad tale of woe about cooked selenium deleted).

Well, you're always on your own bringing up equipment that has sat unused for any period.

I personally don't use a Variac for anything. For one thing, I don't have one. While it is a matter of choice in many cases, there are a few items that should not be run on low voltage. One is Tek scopes, particularly those with the time delay relay in the power supply. They are designed to operate on a minimum of 85 volts. I'm not sure what would happen if you ran it on 50 volts, and I don't know that anyone has ever spent much time figuring out what stresses are in all the little catching circuits and so forth if you ran it for some period on a very low voltage. If you want to limit current flow from the rectifier to the filter caps, and test the integrity of the B+ circuits, pull the rest of the tubes out, put a suitable resistor in the rectifier output, hang some voltmeters on the B+, and put the power to the thing. A slow-blow fuse rated 125-200% of nominal current draw will protect against dead shorts, anything else you have time to read the meters and see what's going on. Monitoring B+ at the rectifier output and at various points downstream will tell you the condition of things. Take the time to figure out what voltages to expect, if the box has a bleeder on the B+ line. For checkout, I generally disconnect any bleeders and ohmmeter the line with my Hewpy 412A, which has a 1000 megohm range. A lot of faults will not show up until you have full voltage on them.

When I say "suitable resistor," if you need to reform old caps, put in at least enough to limit rectifier current to the maximum for the tube or for the selenium or diodes. You can estimate a safe current by summing up the current drains of all the tubes. To monitor current in the B+ circuit, paste some ohms in the ground return (the power transformer plate winding center tap in most cases) and hang a voltmeter across it. Ammeter, le voila.

Relying on a Variac to save your bacon is a bit like trusting in the power of prayer to assure that your box isn't going to blow up. Taking some time to analyze the circuits, ohm the thing out, predict what voltages and currents should be where, and to instrument the thing with a few voltmeters will allow you to put the 110 to it and see what you've got. A good visual inspection will disclose bad solder joints, inept repairs, half-baked modifications, and a whole lot of other things that you'll want to know about.

When I say there are no guarantees about anything, the first hour or so after you have put power to it is the most critical---that is when components that check out with an ohmmeter are most likely to go PFFT! and give you the delicate aroma of cooked resistor or hot wax.

Q. What's painted black crackle, has upside-down lettering that says "Ultra High Frequency Communications Receiver," has a hinged access plate on the bottom, and four rubber feet on top?

A. A dead Hallicrafters S-36A. I just happen to have one. I brought it back from the dead last April, and it ran for easily 40-50 hours on the bench and another hundred or so in its case. But is sure is deader than a mackerel now. Plenty of B+ and the S-meter wiggles, but not a peep out of the speaker. So I guess I'll have to pull it back out of its case (read: lotsa screws), hang some voltmeters on the audio, shove some signal into it, and see what died.

--

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Reply to 31 Jul 1995 post about BA pricing/buying strategies
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9508041934.A16631-0100000@netcom8>

>
> This advice is a sure winner if the offer is at all reasonable. A friend
> of mine from college used to bait pawnshop owners by pretending to be
> broke and offering a camera for sale. Each time the pawnbroker increased
> his offer he would put the money in front of the customer. All the
> customer had to do was pick it up and the deal was done!

>
> Hal K4GFI/7 Las Vegas halwaite@netcom.com

>
>
This works. There was a guy at a foothill flea market selling a bunch of Collins 312B-4s for \$75 ea. I found a B-5 (with the vfo dial) in the pile. He all of a sudden wanted \$150 for that. I held \$90 cash under his nose, and in 3 seconds, the deal was done and it followed me home.

73

Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: HAMRLUND@aol.com
Subject: Re: Reply to 31 Jul 1995 post about BA pricing/buying strategies
Message-ID: <950805000207_48353383@aol.com>

sounds to me like there must have more than just money under his nose to get a 312-B5 for \$90.00.....what else did you stick in his face ,,Mask man??? :-))

robert

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: Re: Slep Electronics/BA haunts in N.Carolina
Message-ID: <950805093928_131066331@aol.com>

>>>Anybody know if Slep Electronics is still in business?

I think that he is. I have seen ads by him in the Yellow sheets recently (several months ago), and I taked to him about that same time about some mil surplus I was looking for.

Joseph Pinner +
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD
EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Aug 5 14:55:00 1995
From: gcarter@Libris.Public.Lib.GA.US (Greg Carter)
Subject: WTB: HT-41
Message-ID: <9508050914.AB24763@Mail.Public.Lib.GA.US>

Greetings!

Looking around for one of these to complete my HT-37/SX-111 station.
Any leads would be appreciated.

Tnx es 73,
Greg KX4R
gcarter@mail.public.lib.ga.us